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Application No: ~~10/758,158~~

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of establishing at least one neurotransmitter status point in a subject, comprising the steps of determining by medical examination whether symptoms of ~~a subject's health status with respect to~~ neurotransmitter dysfunction exist, performing an assay of a body fluid of the subject to determine a neurotransmitter level in the fluid, [[and]] defining the assayed neurotransmitter level in the fluid as at least one neurotransmitter status point, and administering an amino acid precursor of a neurotransmitter to the subject.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human being.

3. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the subject's health status is implemented by a medical examination.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~health status~~ the neurotransmitter dysfunction is selected from the group ~~is determined with respect to the group~~

~~of dysfunction~~ consisting of obesity, panic disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, and Parkinson's disease.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed ~~implemented via~~ on the subject's serum fluid.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed ~~implemented via~~ on the subject's saliva fluid.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed on ~~implemented via~~ the subject's urine fluid.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the urine for assay is collected from the subject approximately 5-6 hours before the subject's bedtime.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of assaying measures neurotransmitter in micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine in urine.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotransmitter is a neurotransmitter of the serotonin system.

10/758,158 T.W.

Application No. ~~10/758,158~~

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotransmitter is catecholamine.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotransmitter is serotonin and catecholamine.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one neurotransmitter status point is a baseline reference point.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the baseline reference point is within a reference range.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the reference range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 100-250 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the reference range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 100-250 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the reference range of norepinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 25-75

micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the reference range of epinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 5-13 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the baseline reference point is further within an optimal range.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the optimal range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 175-225 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein the optimal range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 125-175 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the optimal range of norepinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 30-55 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the optimal range of epinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 8-12 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

24. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the baseline reference point is outside a reference range.

25. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one neurotransmitter status point is a therapeutic point.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the at least one therapeutic point is within a therapeutic range of concentrations of neurotransmitter.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 1,200-2,400 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine, for treatment of obesity.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 250-1,200 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine, for treatment related to panic disorder and obsessive compulsive disorder.

10/785158T.W.

Application No. ~~10/758,158~~

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 200-500 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately <20,000 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine for treatment of Parkinsonism.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range of norepinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 35-70 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the therapeutic range of epinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 8-13 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of treating the subject after the assay step, and wherein the ~~administration~~ treating step is repeated with increasing amounts of amino acid precursors, each ~~administration~~ treating step being followed by an assay step, and further comprising the step of graphing an assayed neurotransmitter level over [[time]] the course of treatment.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of determining an inflection point on the graph of neurotransmitter level.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the inflection point is used to determine the therapeutic range.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a subject for neurotransmitter dysfunction, comprising the steps of performing a first assay of a body fluid of a subject to determine a baseline neurotransmitter level in the body fluid, administering an amino acid precursor of a neurotransmitter to the subject, ~~administering~~ performing a second assay of a body fluid of the subject to determine whether the neurotransmitter level in the body fluid is within a predetermined therapeutic range of neurotransmitter levels.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein the subject is a human being, and wherein ~~health status~~ the neurotransmitter dysfunction is selected from the group ~~is determined with respect to the group of dysfunction~~ consisting of obesity, panic disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, and Parkinson's disease.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed on ~~implemented via~~ the subject's serum fluid.

10/785158T.W

Application No. ~~10/758,158~~

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed on ~~implemented via~~ the subject's saliva fluid.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein ~~the step of~~ performing an assay[[ing]] is performed on ~~implemented via~~ the subject's urine fluid.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the urine for assay is collected from the subject approximately 5-6 hours before the subject's bedtime.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the step of assaying measures neurotransmitter in micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine in urine.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the neurotransmitter is selected from the group of neurotransmitter systems consisting of serotonin, catecholamine, and a combination of serotonin and catecholamine systems.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 1,200-2,400 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine, for treatment of obesity.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range for concentrations of serotonin neurotransmitter is approximately 250-1,200 micrograms of

neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine, for treatment related to panic disorder and obsessive compulsive disorder.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 200-500 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range of dopamine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately <20,000 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine for treatment of Parkinsonism.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range of norepinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 35-70 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein the therapeutic range of epinephrine amino acid precursor of catecholamine neurotransmitter is approximately 8-13 micrograms of neurotransmitter per gram of creatinine.

51. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the administration step is repeated with increasing amounts of amino acid precursors, each administration step being followed by an assay step, and further comprising the step of graphing an assayed

neurotransmitter level over the course of treatment [[time]] to determine an inflection point on the graph of neurotransmitter level, and wherein the inflection point is used to determine the therapeutic range.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of increasing or decreasing the amount of amino acid precursor in the administration step to maintain the level of neurotransmitter in the therapeutic range.

53. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human being for obesity, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, Parkinson's disease ~~or the like~~ based on catecholamine and/or serotonin neurotransmitter system dysfunction, comprising the steps of:

a. performing a first assay [[of]] on a body fluid of a patient to determine a baseline neurotransmitter level in the body fluid, the assay being a urinary assay and the urine sample being collected from the patient about 5-6 hours before the patient's bedtime;

b. administering an amino acid precursor of a neurotransmitter to the subject;

c. performing ~~administering~~ a second assay of a body fluid of the subject to determine whether the neurotransmitter level in the body fluid is within a predetermined therapeutic range of neurotransmitter levels; wherein the administration step is repeated with increasing amounts of amino acid precursors, each administration step being followed by an assay step; and

d. graphing neurotransmitter level over [[time]] the course of treatment to